



HARMONIZED SYSTEM
REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE

-
27th Session
-

NR0371E1
(+ Annex)

O. Eng.

Brussels, 21 February 2003.

POSSIBLE AMENDMENT OF THE EXPLANATORY NOTE TO HEADING 29.37

(Item III.C.12 on Agenda)

Reference documents :

NS0060E2, Annexes A/1 and A/6 (SSC/17 – Report)
NC0590E2, Annexes E/1 and L/10 (HSC/29 – Report)
NR0296E1, (RSC/26)

NR0332E3, Annexes E/2 and F/23 (RSC/26 – Report)
NS0065E1 (SSC/18)
NS0080E2, Annexes A/3 and C/3 (SSC/18 – Report)

I. BACKGROUND

1. At its 26th Session (September 2002), the HS Review Sub-Committee examined the possible amendment of the Explanatory Note to heading 29.37 on the basis of Doc. NR0296E1.
2. Since the Secretariat's proposal had been drafted in line with previous conclusions of the Scientific Sub-Committee and given the technical nature of the matter, the Review Sub-Committee unanimously agreed to refer this question to the Scientific Sub-Committee, asking it to examine whether the proposed amendments were technically correct.
3. The Scientific Sub-Committee, at its 18th Session, examined the proposal to amend the Explanatory Note to heading 29.37 set out in the Annex to Doc. NS0065E1. The observations of the Sub-Committee are set out below.

II. OBSERVATIONS OF THE SCIENTIFIC SUB-COMMITTEE

Insertion of references to metreleptin (INN) and leptin, pages 470 and 472

4. One delegate noted that somatrem (INN), which was the same type of modified natural hormone as metreleptin (INN), had already been described in Item (V) (a) on page 470 and was therefore of the view that there was no need to insert a reference to metreleptin (INN) in the Explanatory Notes.

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5. However, another delegate noted that metreleptin (INN) was related to leptin, a reference to which had been proposed to be inserted as new Item (20) on page 472 of the Explanatory Notes. She stated that if the reference to metreleptin (INN), being an analogue of leptin, were retained, new Item (20) would be a good example to show a parent compound and its analogue together. The Sub-Committee supported her view and agreed to recommend the Secretariat's proposed texts regarding the insertion of a reference to metreleptin (INN) in Item (V) (a) (page 470) and the creation of a new Item (20) for leptin on page 472.

Insertion of a reference to pegvisomant (INN), page 471

6. One delegate suggested that it might be appropriate to classify this product in Chapter 39 rather than Chapter 29. In this regard, the Chairperson replied that the Harmonized System Committee had already classified this product in heading 2937.19.

Insertion of new paragraph (g), Item (2), page 481

7. The Sub-Committee agreed that endothelin antagonists and endothelin receptor antagonists were the same products and the proposed paragraph (d) under Item (4) on page 482 should be modified. The Sub-Committee further agreed that this paragraph should be inserted as a new paragraph (g) under Item (2) on page 481, since endothelin antagonists, such as darusentan (INN) (heading 29.33), atrasentan (INN) (heading 29.34) and sitaxentan (INN) (heading 29.35) were produced by synthesis and did not have hormone-like structures.

Amendment of paragraph (c), Item (4), page 482

8. The Sub-Committee agreed that neurotransmitters and neuromodulators should be differentiated from their related products such as their receptor agonists and antagonists.

Insertion of new Items (6) and (7), page 482

9. The Sub-Committee agreed that antagonists of tromboxanes and leukotrienes and antagonists of tumor necrosis factor should be separately described with examples and agreed to recommend the insertion of new items (6) and (7) on page 482.
10. Finally, the Scientific Sub-Committee agreed to recommend the texts, subject to above-mentioned modifications. The recommended texts are set out in the Annex to this document.

III. CONCLUSION

11. The Sub-Committee is invited to take the observations of the Scientific Sub-Committee into consideration when examining the possible amendment of the Explanatory Note to heading 29.37, as set out in the Annex to this document.

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